

Gulf Coast Workforce Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JULY JOB LOSSES SURPASS 30,000, BUT UNEMPLOYMENT REMAINS LOW

(HOUSTON, Texas, August 15, 2025) Employment in the Houston area fell nearly one percent in July driven by typical seasonal job losses related to the end of the academic year, according to numbers released this morning by Workforce Solutions – Gulf Coast. Overall, the region posted a decline of 30,500 jobs during the month.

Government sector employment, which includes public schools and universities, reported a loss of 26,600 jobs last month, a figure that is substantially above the long-term average, according to Mohammad Ahmadizadeh, principal data analyst and economist at the workforce development agency. "This is the largest over-the-month decrease in this sector in the past three decades," he said, noting that the long-term average loss in this sector is 13,800.

Ahmadizadeh said that as the region's population grows, more teachers and support staff are needed, leading to higher job losses, nothing that last July the sector shed 22,000 jobs. "The good news is, the majority of the month's losses will be reversed with the start of the new school year."

Only three of the eleven sectors tracked by the agency reported gains last month. The financial activities sector added 900, private education & health services gained 600 new workers, and the information sector filled 100 positions. The biggest loser during July was the professional and business services sector, which lost 1,800 jobs.

The not-seaonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked slightly higher to 4.5 percent, compared to 4.3 percent in June. The Seasonally adjusted rate for June was unchanged from May at 4.3 percent

Additional labor market information, including the detailed July report, can be found online at www.wrksolutions.com/localstats. The Texas Workforce Commission will release July employment data on September 19, 2025.

ABOUT WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – GULF COAST: Workforce Solutions - Gulf Coast is dedicated to keeping the Texas Gulf Coast region a great place to do business, work and live. Our employer-driven, people-focused approach elevates the economic and human potential of the region to attract and retain the best employers, afford everyone the dignity of a job, and remain indispensable to the global economy. As the public workforce system for 13 counties in the Houston-Galveston region, we work in tandem with the Texas Workforce Commission and the statewide Workforce Solutions network to maintain the state's largest job-match database – www.worklnTexas.com.

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